

News Release

Celebrating 10 Years of Commitment to Higher Education: Marvin Windows and Doors Holds 5th Graduation May 3

By Elizabeth Tollefson on Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Marvin Windows and Doors, the Warroad, Minnesota-based manufacturer of premier wood and clad wood windows and doors, announces the commencement exercises for its Northern Lights University (NLU) program on Tuesday, May 3, at 7 p.m. at the Warroad High School Auditorium. This is Marvin's 5th Commencement Exercises in its unique educational partnership with Northwest Technical College (NTC) and the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) that enables its employees to pursue an associate or bachelor's degree onsite at Marvin's corporate headquarters in Warroad. Faculty members from NTC and UMC travel to Warroad two days a week to teach the lecture/lab courses.

During this commencement exercise, John G. Batten, Rebecca Pederson, Charles Jay Sorenson, and Neomie Ann Lystad Wilemon will receive their Associate of Science degree in Supervisory Leadership from NTC. Raymond L. Isleman and Steven Josephson will earn a Bachelor of Manufacturing Management degree from UMC. Two of these Marvin employees will be speaking as representatives from their college programs: John Batten – NTC and Steve Josephson – UMC. This ceremony will bring together officials from the University of Minnesota and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU), including MnSCU AVC Strategic Partnerships Michael Murphy; University of Minnesota Regent Clyde Allen, Jr.; UMC CEO Dr. Joe Massey; UMC Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs Dr. Richard Nelson; Bemidji State University/NTC President Jon Quistgaard; NTC Vice President Custom Training Services Dr. Mary Eaton; and Minnesota State Community and Technical College Chief Academic Officer Dr. Pat Wilber. Guest speakers from Marvin Windows and Doors will be: Peggy Ann Anderholm, Manager of Education and Workforce Development and Susan Marvin, President.

To date, 70 employees have graduated (1998, 2002, 2003, and 2004) from Marvin's NLU program which has included: 30 from UMC's Bachelor of Manufacturing program, 13 from NTC's Business Microcomputer diploma program, 13 from NTC's Supervisory Leadership Certificate or AAS programs, and 14 from NTC's Manufacturing Engineering Technology Certificate or AAS programs. These alumni have been invited back for this 10th year celebration. This partnership between Marvin Windows and Doors, NTC, and UMC was recognized nationally at the 2004 ASTD International Conference and Exposition with an award of Excellence in Practice Citation in the Workplace Development category. The American Society of Training and Development is the world's largest professional training organization.

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